

Kearsley Urban District Council



Annual Report

OF THE

Medical Officer of Health

1972

ELLIS TAYLOR. M.B., Ch.B. D.P.H.
M.O.H.

A. CASHMORE, M.R.S.H.. M.A.P.H.I.
Public Health Inspector.

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MEMBERS OF THE HEALTH COMMITTEE

Chairman:

Councillor Mrs. J. ROBINSON, B.A.

Vice-Chairman:

Councillor J. R. RILEY

Members:

Councillor T. COOPER
,, R. CORNTHWAITE
,, H. GRIFFITHS
,, J. HAYDOCK
,, T. LEWIS
,, B. MOLYNEUX
,, J. NEVILLE
,, Mrs. J. RILEY
,, W. A. ROBINSON
,, Mrs. M. P. ROTHWELL
,, J. ROTHWELL
,, L. SANDERSON
,, J. WALKER

STAFF OF THE PUBLIC HEALTH DEPARTMENT

Medical Officer of Health

ELLIS TAYLOR, M.B., Ch.B., D.P.H.

Public Health Inspector

A. CASHMORE, M.R.S.H., M.A.P.H.I.

Technical Assistant

W. MORT

Clerk

Mrs. M. HOLLAND to December 1st, 1972.

Mrs. N. TYLDESLEY from December, 1972.

Annual Report of the Medical Officer of Health

To the Chairman and Members of the Kearsley Urban District Council.

Mr. Chairman, Ladies and Gentlemen,

I have pleasure in presenting for your confirmation the Annual Report on the District for the year 1972.

The continuing trend as revealed by consideration of the statistics was healthy and indicates that advantage was being taken of available facilities. The population actually increased by 10, but the outstanding feature was a complete absence of stillbirths.

Communicable diseases were noticeable only by their absence in significant number.

May I express my appreciation for the interest shown by the Chairman and members of the Committee and for the help and co-operation from colleagues in the Town Hall.

ELLIS TAYLOR,

Medical Officer of Health.

STATISTICS OF THE AREA

Area—1,728 statute acres (approx.).

Population—Estimated June, 1972—11,330.

EXTRACTS FROM VITAL STATISTICS OF THE YEAR

Births:		Total	Males	Females
Legitimate	... ..	173	90	83
Illegitimate	... ..	12	6	6
Still Births:				
Legitimate	. . . . .	—	—	—
Illegitimate	... ..	—	—	—
		Kearsley	England & Wales	
Birth Rate per 1,000 population	... ..	16.3	14.8	
Still Births per 1,000 total births	... ..	—	12	
		Total	Males	Females
Deaths	... ..	151	78	73
		Kearsley	England & Wales	
Death Rate per 1,000 population (adjusted)		15.7	12.1	
Deaths of Infants under one year of age:				
		Total	Males	Females
Legitimate	... ..	3	1	2
Illegitimate	... ..	1	1	Nil
		Kearsley	England & Wales	
Infant Mortality Rate:				
(All infants under 1 year of age per 1,000 live births)	... ..	22	17	
Perinatal Mortality Rate:				
(Per 1,000 total births)	... ..	11	22	
Neonatal Mortality Rate:				
(Per 1,000 total births)	... ..	11	12	
Deaths from Cancer (all ages)	... ..			14
Deaths from Measles (all ages)	... ..			Nil
Deaths from Whooping Cough (all ages)	... ..			Nil
Deaths from Diarrhoea (under two years of age)	... ..			Nil

TABLE I.

YEAR	1962	1963	1964	1965	1966	1967	1968	1969	1970	1971	1972
Death Rate	16.1	14.5	15.3	12.2	14.0	11.3	13.5	14.5	13.5	14.5	15.7
Birth Rate	15.8	18.8	21.9	21.8	21.2	22.5	21.3	20.3	17.7	19.4	16.3
Infantile Mortality Rate ...	42.7	27.6	47.4	22.8	9.1	21.1	8.8	9.0	6.0	30	22
Still Birth Rate	12.0	16.3	27.6	13.5	13.5	21.9	14.3	14.0	10.0	24	—
Causes of Death:											
Heart Disease	(10) 27	(10) 35	(13) 42	(11) 37	(14) 37	(5) 31	(5) 36	(5) 36	(13) 38	(9) 36	(9) 36
Cancer	(7) 21	(3) 14	(6) 30	(6) 24	(6) 28	(6) 26	(8) 24	(8) 26	(4) 17	(5) 21	(7) 16
Bronchitis	5	4	5	7	13	7	11	8	9	9	8
Pneumonia	8	8	4	Nil	7	6	6	6	11	8	17

The figures in brackets are those of Coronary Thrombosis and Lung Cancer.

CAUSES OF DEATH IN 1972

Malignant Neoplasm, Oesophagus	2
Malignant Neoplasm, Stomach	2
Malignant Neoplasm, Intestine	2
Malignant Neoplasm, Lung, Bronchus	7
Malignant Neoplasm, Uterus	1
Malignant Neoplasm, Prostate	2
Leukaemia	2
Other Malignant Neoplasms	6
Diabetes Mellitus	2
Anaemias	1
Meningitis	1
Other Diseases of Nervous System	1
Chronic Rheumatic Heart Disease	3
Hypertensive Disease	4
Ischaemic Heart Disease	36
Other Forms of Heart Disease	4
Cerebrovascular Disease	21
Other Diseases of Circulatory System	10
Influenza	4
Pneumonia	17
Bronchitis and Emphysema	8
Other Diseases of Respiratory System	1
Intestinal Obstruction and Hernia	3
Cirrhosis of Liver	1
Other Diseases of Digestive System	1
Hyperplasia of Prostate	1
Other Diseases, Genito-Urinary System	2
Diseases of Musculo-Skeletal System	1
Birth Injury, Difficult Labour, etc.	2
Symptoms and Ill Defined Conditions	1
Suicide and Self-Inflicted Injuries	1
All Other External Causes	1

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PREVALENCE OF, AND CONTROL OVER, INFECTIOUS DISEASES

The following is a list of cases of infectious diseases notified during the year 1972:-

Disease	No.
Scarlet Fever	5
Dysentry	Nil
Measles	38
Infective Jaundice	Nil
Whooping Cough	Nil
Tuberculosis Cases notified	1

The treatment of all cases of tuberculosis is undertaken by the Hospital Services and their domiciliary supervision by the County Council.

SCARLET FEVER

Five cases of Scarlet Fever were reported during the year, and these children were nursed at home.

DIPHTHERIA

For the twenty-sixth year in succession there were no cases of Diphtheria.

LABORATORY FACILITIES

The bacteriological examination of milk, water samples and pathological specimens is carried out at Bolton Royal Infirmary.

WATER SUPPLY

Bolton Corporation is the source of supply for the whole of the district.

Several bacteriological examinations throughout the year were found to be unsatisfactory and faults at the filtering stations at Bolton were suspected, and certain adjustments were made. Investigations were still proceeding at the end of the year and unsatisfactory samples were being obtained sporadically.

There are four houses with a population of 10, in the outlying district known as Giant's Seat, dependent on well water, which is not a connected supply.

	Bolton Corpn.
No. of bacteriological examinations of raw water	689
Results	Satisfactory
No. of chemical analyses	24
Results	Satisfactory
Water going into supply where treatment is installed:—	
No. of bacteriological examinations	1242
Results	Generally Satisfactory
No. of chemical analyses	32
Results	Satisfactory
Action taken in respect of any form of contamination	No contamination
Liability to plumbo-solvent action	None

Additional sampling of domestic supplies was done by the Health Department and during the year 12 random samples were taken of which 10 proved satisfactory on bacteriological examination. The remaining two proved satisfactory on re-sampling.

HOUSING

Private enterprise built 20 houses during the year. There is again a growing need for units of small accommodation in the form of flats and bungalows, and of course this type of accommodation does not become as readily available in the form of re-lets as do council houses. Consequently the waiting list for flats and bungalows is still steadily growing as demand exceeds supply.

The Primrose Street/Church Street development was completed with the erection of 30 flats.

During the year available council accommodation was disposed of by letting as follows:—

Rehousing from slum clearance properties	...	...	...	33
Rehousing from waiting lists	...	...	...	45
Rehousing from medical priority lists:—				
To warden supervised bungalows	...	...	...	4
To warden supervised flats	...	...	...	2
To bungalows	...	...	...	1
To ground floor flats	...	...	...	15
Transfers	...	...	...	19
Exchanges within the district	...	...	...	2
Exchanges with other local authorities	...	...	...	1
Special priority cases	...	...	...	8
Service Tenancies	...	...	...	3

New houses erected during the year

	Houses	Flats	Bungalows
(1) By the local authority	—	30	—
(2) By other local authorities	—	—	—
(3) By other bodies or persons	20	—	—

1. Inspection of dwelling houses during the year:—

(1) (a) Total number of dwelling houses inspected formally or informally for housing defects (under Public Health or Housing Acts)	51
(b) No. of inspections, formal or informal, made for the purpose	74
(2) Dwelling-houses unfit for human habitation and not capable at reasonable expense of being rendered fit and in respect of which:- Demolition, Clearance or Closing orders have been made (at any time)	—
(3) No. of dwelling-houses found during the year to be not in all respects reasonably fit for human habitation but capable of being rendered fit ...	10

2. Houses Demolished:—

In Clearance Areas:—

	Houses Demolished	Displaced during year Persons Families
(1) Houses unfit for human habitation	40	99 39
(2) Houses included by bad arrangement, etc.	—	— —
(3) Houses on land acquired under Section 43 (2) Housing Act, 1957 Not in Clearance Areas:—	—	— —
(4) As a result of formal or informal procedure under Section 17(1) Housing Act, 1957	—	— —

3.	Unfit Houses Closed:—	Number		
(1)	Under Section 16(4), 17(1), and 35(1) Housing Act, 1957	Nil	Nil	Nil
(2)	Under Sections 17(3) and 26 Housing Act, 1957	—	—	—
(3)	Parts of buildings closed under Section 18 Housing Act, 1957 ...	—	—	—
4.	Unfit Houses Made Fit and Houses in which Defects were remedied:—	By By Local Owner Authority		
(1)	After informal action by local authority ...	2	—	
(2)	After formal notice under			
	(a) Public Health Acts	2	—	
	(b) Sections 9 and 16 Housing Act, 1957	—		
(3)	Under Section 24 Housing Act, 1957 ...	—	—	
5.	Housing Acts, 1961, 1964 and 1969:—			
	Standard Grants:—			
		<i>No. of dwellings or other buildings affected</i>		
	Action during year:—			
	(i) Applications submitted to local authority	11		
	(ii) Applications approved by local authority	11		
	(iii) Work completed	9		
6.	Housing Act, 1969:—			
	Improvement Grants:—			
	(i) Applications submitted to L.A. ...	73		
	(ii) Applications approved by L.A.	73		
	(iii) Work completed	66		

The Council also makes loans for the construction, acquisition, improvement and repair of houses.

HOUSING CONDITIONS

The Slum Clearance Programme progressed during the year with the rehousing of the occupants of 2-42 Oakes Street, 24-36 Lord Street, 23-29 Water Lane, 18-24 and 34-40 Stoneclough Road, and the subsequent demolition of these properties.

The slum clearance programme is now drawing to a close and it is anticipated that when about another forty houses are dealt with next year, this will see the end of all unfit houses in Kearsley.

NOTICES

Eight preliminary notices and three statutory notices were served during the year.

REFUSE COLLECTION AND DISPOSAL

All domestic refuse during the year has been taken to the incinerator plant at Bolton. This plant has again been plagued with breakdown problems and during these periods refuse has had to be tipped at the Maze Street site at Darcy Lever.

The incentive bonus scheme has continued to prove its worth this year and an excellent standard of service to the public has again been achieved.

A new 35 cu. yd. "Muskateer" was brought into operation to supplement the larger vehicle purchased last year and these together with the further extension of the plastic bin liner scheme have helped to achieve the efficient collection service.

The Saturday morning service for collection of bulky articles of refuse continued to be increasingly popular, with 736 premises being visited.

SANITARY ACCOMMODATION

The sanitary accommodation of the district at the end of the year was as follows:—

Fresh water closets	...	...	...	4,293
Ashbins	...	...	...	4,589
Pails	...	...	...	2

SALVAGE

The collection and sale of salvage has again continued. During the year under review the combined weight of salvage collected was 33 tons 3 cwt. 1 qtr., made up as follows:—

	T.	C.	Q.
Waste Paper	27	18	1
Miscellaneous	5	4	4

The total value was £335.51

DRAINAGE AND SEWERAGE

All sewage is treated at the works of the Bolton Joint Sewerage Board at Ringley.

ADULTERATION OF FOOD

The County Council is the authority under the Sale of Food and Drugs Act.

A total of 42 samples was obtained comprising 16 milks and 26 others as follows:—

1 Part Chicken Meal	1 White Petroleum Jelly B.P.
1 Flour Confectionery	1 Arrowroot
1 Vegetables canned	1 Gravy Browning
1 Pork Sausages	1 Cough Syrup & Vit. C.
2 Fresh Minced Meat	1 Bread
1 Prawn Curry	1 Fish Fingers Frozen
1 Beef Sausages	1 Dessiccated Coconut
1 Flour	1 Cake Crumbs
1 Rice Pudding canned	2 Whisky
1 Soup canned	2 Brandy
1 Curry Paste	1 Gin
	1 Rum

I give below details of those samples on which the County Analyst gave adverse reports:—

<u>Sample</u>	<u>Result of Analysis</u>	<u>Action Taken</u>
Flour Confectionery	The piece of foreign matter submitted with the cake was a piece of PTFE film weighing 0.055gm. It was in a double layer enclosing carbonised material containing relatively large amounts of iron (0.75 per cent). PTFE film is used as a pipe packing material but it has so many applications (including electrical ones) that it could occur where any maintenance work has been undertaken.	Bakers cautioned, Complainant informed.

<u>Sample</u>	<u>Result of Analysis</u>	<u>Action Taken</u>
Vegetables canned	Contained a ground beetle (family Carabidae) weighing 0.104gm. It had been cooked.	Importer cautioned complainant informed.
Pork Sausages	Meat content 56.0 per cent. Pork Sausage should contain not less than 65 per cent meat.	Vendor cautioned.
Cake Crumbs	Contained a piece of polystyrene weighing 0.158gm. It had been in somebody's mouth.	Bakery cautioned complainant informed.

SMOKE CONTROL

There are five smoke control areas operating in Kearsley and the survey of 1,370 premises in the No. 6 area was completed towards the end of the year to be operative from 1st November, 1973. Some 80% of all premises in the district will then be covered by Smoke Control Orders.

There were two applications approved during the year relating to chimney heights at industrial premises.

RODENT CONTROL

One man is normally engaged on this work but owing to sickness for much of the year the burden has had to be shouldered by the remaining Health Department Staff.

One maintenance treatment was carried out during the year, using Fluoracetamide as recommended by the Ministry.

The following action relating to rodent control has also been carried out:—

	Type of Property	
	Non Agricul- tural	Agricul- tural
(a) No. of properties in district	4,904	9
(b) Total number of properties (including nearby premises) inspected following notification:	115	3
(c) No. of (b) infested by - rats	90	3
mice	25	—
(d) Total number of properties inspected for rats and / or mice for reasons other than notification	40	2
(e) No. of (d) infested by - rats	2	2
mice	—	—

SUMMARY OF WORK DONE IN THE PUBLIC HEALTH DEPARTMENT

1st January, 1972 to 31st December, 1972.

Visits and Inspections under P.H.A. 1936:

Houses after complaint	11
Land	16
Subsequent visits	8
Houses in need of repair	†10
Houses made fit: by owner	†4
Visits made under Housing Act:	
Slum Clearance, etc.	55
Improvement Grants	252
Notification of Infectious Diseases	10
Rodent Control Visits	188
Offices and Shops Act Visits	22
Shops Act 1950 visits	92
Factories Act visits	7
Drainage inspection and miscellaneous tests	87
Visits in connection with Smoke Control	903
Visits in connection with House Letting and general management	437
Visits in connection with refuse collection and disposal	111
Food hygiene visits	37
Water sampling	12
Swill boiling plants	2
Animal Boarding Establishments	1
Unsound Food	4
Interviews	129
No access	147
Miscellaneous	122
Hairdressers	1
	<hr/>
	2,668
	<hr/>

† Not included in total.

FACTORIES ACT, 1937 to 1959

PART I OF THE ACT

1—INSPECTIONS for purposes of provisions as to health (including inspections made by Public Health Inspectors).

Premises (1)	Number on Register (2)	Inspections (3)	Numbers of	
			Written notices (4)	Occu- piers prosecuted (5)
(i) Factories in which Sections 1, 2, 3, 4 and 6 are to be enforced by Local Authorities	—	—	Nil	Nil
(ii) Factories not included in (i) in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority	13	4	—	Nil
(iii) Other Premises in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority (excluding out-workers' premises)	—	—	—	Nil
Total	13	4	—	Nil

2—Cases in which DEFECTS were found.

Particulars (1)	Found (2)	Number of cases in which defects were found		Number of cases in which prosecu- tions were instituted (6)
		Remedied (3)	Referred To H.M. By H.M. Inspector Inspector (4) (5)	
Want of cleanliness (S.1.)	2	2	Nil	Nil
Overcrowding (S. 2)	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
Unreasonable temperature (S.3)	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
Inadequate ventilation (S.4) ...	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
Ineffective drainage of floors (S.6)	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
Sanitary Conveniences (S.7)				
(a) Insufficient	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
(b) Unsuitable or defective ...	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
(c) Not separate for sexes	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
Other offences against the Act (not including offences relating to Out-work)	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
Total ...	2	2	Nil	Nil

PART VIII OF THE ACT

Out-work

(Sections 110 and 111)

Nature of Work	Section 110			Section 111		
	No. of out- workers in August list required by Section 110 (1) (c)	No. of cases of default in sending lists to the Council	No. of prosecu- tions for failure to supply lists	No. of instances of work in unwhole- some premises	Notices served	Prosecu- tions
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)	(7)
Employed in manufacture of wearing apparel	3	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil

